

THE
REQUESTS
PRESENTED
VNTO THE FRENCH
KING,

By the Generall Deputies of
the Reformed Churches
of FRANCE.

France
Reformed Churches
Together with his Maiesties
Answers therevnto.



LONDON,
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THE
REVISED
PRESENTED
TO THE FRENCH

By the
General Director of
the French Republic

of the
French Republic

Translated
into English
by
M. J. G. L.



1753

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To the King.

Sir,



Our most humble and obedient Servants and Subjects of the RELIGION, throughly informed of your Maiesties Royall inclinatio to re-establish the ruines of your poore people, haue charged the generall Deputies, which it hath pleased your Maiestie to grant them, with infinite wishes and acclamations to be vowed vnto the assured setting of this so much desired Peace, to the end that for as much as they find themselves penetrated with so celestially a benefit, they may seeke the continuance thereof, with the constancie of their submissions, and by the onely recourse, which they haue vnto your Clemencie and Iustice, they may giue a notable testimony, that they aspire vnto

no assurance or refuge more available against the violence of such as trouble them, and that oppose the power of your Lawes, then with most humble requests and supplication, to invoke the firmnesse of your inviolable Word, and the observation of your so authentickall Briefes. For seeing that the outrages which are done them doe strike directly at the reverence of your Protections, and devide that which the Peace & their obedience ought to ioyne vnder the felicitie of your Commandements, they earnestly beseech your Maiestie, to weigh their most humble remonstrances in that ballance of equitie, which makes your Scepter so iust and redoubtable, and that you will be pleased to cut off with the sword which God hath put into your hand, the violent infringements of your gracious concessions, to the end that relying in a true confidence on the wisdom and goodnesse of your holy administration, they may be alwayes retained within the fidelitie and true obligations of your pure and entire service.

E

Wherfore to enioy a full effect of your justice, they most humbly beseech your Maiestie would be pleased to send into your Provinces, personages both of the one and the other Religion, endued with that affection which is requisite for the Peace, to the end they may the more profitably put your Edicts and Declarations in execution there, and take order in all places for the supplications, and necessities of your people of the Religion.

Answer

Answer.

THe King hath deputed and dispatched away Commissioners, as well Catholiques as of the pretended Reformed Religion into the Provinces where they are iudged necessary, for the execution of his Maiesties declaration of the 20. of *October* last.

II.

And imparting your compassion and clemencie to those of your Townes, which haue rendered you such obedience, that thereby you were pleased to grant vs the Peace, your Maiestie is most humbly brought to ordaine, that the garrison which for many months hath bene with so much oppression at *Montpellier*, may be withdrawne from thence, according to your Royall promises, and in regard of the misery and mortalitie which is in the Towne.

Answer.

After satisfaction hath bene made to that which was ordained by the Declaration of the 20. of *October* last, his Maiestie will take order for the contents of the present Article.

III.

And that conformably to the particular Brieve, which it hath pleased your Maiesty to accord vnto, nothing may be innovated in your said towne of *Montpellier*, and expressely in that which concerneth their Consullships; and that also the innovation made concerning the Consullship, called *de Mer*, may be repaired, considering the obedience which is rendered vnto you there, in the demolishment of the fortifications, in which labour the inhabitants continue with great charge, care, and diligence.

Answer.

Answer.

THe Election of the Consulls *de Mer*, of the said Towne of *Montpellier*, having beene made according to an Arrest contradictorily given in the Chamber of the Edict of *Cassras*, nothing can be altered or changed therein. As for the Election of the other Consulls of the said Towne, his Maiesties intent is, that it should be done with the ordinary formes, and according to the liberties and priviledges thereof.

IIII.

YOur Subiects of the Religion also for to take away all occasion of distrust and feare, having given satisfaction to your Maiesties pleasure, concerning the razing downe of the Forts of the Isles of *Oleron* and *de Re*; may it please your Maiestie in like manner to ordaine, that the Fort erected before your Towne of *Rochell* may be demolished, as it pleased your said Maiestie to promise.

Answer.

VPon hearing the report of the Commissioners, which his Maiestie hath sent to the said towne of *Rochell*, his Maiesty will take order for that which is contained in the present Article.

V.

ANd as God is all mercy, so like vnto him, whose image you beare, may it please your Maiestie to grant vnto a great number of persons, of all ages, detained for being in the last Warre, or for Religion, in your Galleyes, with nakednesse, rigor, and insupportable vsage, their pardon and libertie; and the same libertie to all others that are prisoners for accusations, depending vpon the

the times and affaires of the said troubles, whether they be found indged or no; which fauor, pardon and liberty, is accorded vnto them by the 73 Article of the Edict which it hath pleased you to confirme.

Answer.

His Maiestie will deliuer the prisoners of warre, detained at this present in the Gallies; and for those which are accused of particular crimes, he will take order by the waies of Iustice.

6

Your Maiesty, by your Letters of declaration of the 24 of April, 1621, hath willed that your Subjects, which remaine in your obedience, shall enioy the grace and concessions granted vnto them, aswell by your Maiesty, as by the late King, *Henry the Great*, of glorious memorie: Neuerthelesse, the last yeere 1622, they haue beene wholly depriued of the money which your Maiesty was accustomed yeerely to cause to be distributed to them, by *Monsieur du Candal* the Commissioner for it, wherby their poore Churches are in particular so disaccomodated, that they are constrained to haue recourse vnto your Maiesty, and beseech you (as most humbly they doe) to appoint a stock of money vnto the said *du Candal* for the said yeere, at leastwise for the entertainment of the Pastors of the Prouinces which remained in your obedience, and which were faine to borrow for to buy themselves meate, and to supply their other necessities.

7

[Likewise, they most humbly beseech your Maie-
sty,

lie, that according to the Grant you were pleased not long since to make vnto your said Subiects, you would be pleased to ordaine, that the said *du Candal* may be furnished with good and valuable assignations, for the entertainment and releefe of their Ministers during the present yeare: and for the pensions of the parties of the *petit Estate*, which it shal please you to erect; as also for the entertainment of the places which it pleased you to leaue in their guard; And that all these assignations may bee paid in such manner as it hath pleased your said Maiesty, and the said late King to grant vnto them by the Brieves which they haue had heretofore.

Answer to the 6. and 7.

The Kings affaires not permitting him to satisfie the suppliants for that, which concerneth the time past, his Maiesty for the time to come will cause good and valuable assignations to be deliuered to the said du Candal for the releefe and entertainment of the said Ministers, as also for the payment of the pensions contained in the petit Estate which he meaneth to erect. As for the Garisons, the Brieve of the 24. of October last shall be obserued.

8

And forasmuch as there resteth great and notable summes vnpaid of the assignations wherewithall the said *du Candal* was furnished in the yeares 1620. and 1621, which the Receiuers and Farmers vpon whom the said assignations were laid, keepe still in their hands, they most humbly beseech your Maiesty so ordaine that all delays set apart, he may be satisfied the said remainders.

Answer.

Answer.
The said du Candal presenting his request to the Council, order shall be taken for him therein.

The Churches of the Prouince of *Gex* hauing enioyed entertainment for their Pastors out of the Ecclesiasticall reuennues of the said Prouince, vntill the yeare 1601, and for many yeares after, vnder the late King *Henry the great*, and till such time as it pleased your Maiesty by an Arrest of your Councell of the 5 of *December* 1612, to take away the said Ecclesiasticall lands, and in exchange thereof to ordaine that 3 600 liuers should be paid them yearly, the said summe of 3 600 liuers to bee leuyed vpon the 45000 liuers of augmentation, granted to those of the Religion, which money was paid them by the said *du Candal* vntill the moneth of *October*, 1621: May it please your Maiestie to command they may enioy the effect of the said Grant and Exchange, and to that end cause necessary assignations to be giuen to the said *du Candal*, as well for payment of the arreages, as of that which is to come

Answer.

The King will take order hereafter, for that which is contained in the present Article, according as is abovesaid.

May it please your Maiestie also, to extend your liberalitie so farre forth as to furnish your subiects of the Religion in your city of *Paris* with a stock sufficient for re-edifying & reestablishment of their church and other buildings for the place of their exercise,

which were burnt, demolished, and the most part of the materials carried away in the popular tumult that hapned in the yeere 1621, notwithstanding that your said Subiects kept themselves within the terms of obedience, and thereby vnder your Maiesties safe-guard and protection.

Answer.

His Maiesty referres the re-establishment of the said Church to the care and diligence of the Suppliants.

12

And after the same manner entreating your subiects of the said profession in your Citie of *Tours*, may it please you Sir to furnish them with the summes which your Maiesty, of your grace granted vnto them for the re-edifying of their Church; the Site and place whereof, may it please your Maiesty to continue vnto them, as that which was adiudged them by the Commissioners, after hearing of the whole Clergy, the Courts of Iustice and the Citie, and also was bought, built, and peaceably enjoyed by them, vntill the troubles of the yeere 1621, in the possession whereof, they were not onely maintained by the Ediſt of 98; but also by those of the yeeres 1610 and 1612, and more especially by your Maiesties last declaration.

Answer.

The Commissioners deputed for the Prouince of Touraine, shall take order that the Suppliants may haue a commodious place for the exercise of the pretended reformed Religion. As for the re-establishment and re-edifying

fying of their Church, his Maieſty referres the care thereof vnto the Suppliants.

The ſame request is made vnto your Maieſty, for the re-edifying of the Church of *Bourg*, in the place which they of the Religion were poſſeſſed of, by the iudgement & ordinance of the Commiſſioners, but now are kept from enioying it.

Answer.

The Commiſſioners which are to be ſent into Breſſie, ſhall take order for that is contained in the preſent Article, ſo far forth, as ſhall ſtand with reaſon.

Pleaſeth your Maieſtie to bee informed, that the inhabitants, profeſſing the reformed Religion, in your Towne of *Villeneuve*, are moleſted in the liberty of their Conſciences; depriued of all exerciſe of piety; excluded from publike office, and greatly ouercharged by the Garriſon there. They alſo of *Fontenay le Comte*, are chaſed away and interdicted from Preaching and Prayer, neither can they haue their Church againe, which is euen quite ruined, nor is their Paſtor ſuffered ſo much as to enter into it, nor are they permitted to burie their dead, but contrariwiſe endure all exceſſe of charge and taxation, and vpon their complaints are ſent away to your Council: Whereupon may it pleaſe you, Sir, to deliuer them from ſuch oppreſſions, and letting them enioy the fruite of the Peace, ordaine the re-eſta bliſhment of their Religion, their Churches, their

Pastors, the suretie of their Sepulchres, and whatsoever else appertaineth vnto your Iustice in other their griuances.

14

May it please your Maiesty in like manner to ordaine the said re-establishment of the Exercise at *Luffon*, where it is denied vnto them of the Religion, contrary to the publication of your Declaration, although they carried themselues in all obedience, and that the said Exercise hath beene continued there for 55 yeeres together, euen during all the time of the last warres, and government of *Monsieur Roches Barisault*.

15

They of the Religion also are disturbed in the said Exercise at *Talmont*, the Cannon hauing beene planted against them, vpon their assembly to heare a Sermon. Likewise at *Surgers*, the Lady of the place hath forbidden to Preach there, although it was permitted them all the time of these last troubles: So in like sort at *Baignols*, at *S. Gilles* in *Languedoc*, at *Figeac* in *Quercy*, and at *Vic* in *Armaignac*, from whence *Monsieur Testas* the Minister was expelled, and dares not returne thither, nor can be therewith any safety: wherein your Declaration being violated, may it please your Maiesty to command the re-establishment of the said Churches, and of the said *Testas*; as also that of the Church of *Quillebauf* and the Pastor thereof, who a long time hath sued to be restored.

Answer.

To the 13, 14 & 15 Articles, the Commissioners are partition.

particularly charged to see that the Suppliants may receive satisfaction touching their demands, according to the tenor of the Edicts and the said Declaration.

16

And whereas the Catholiques of your Towne of *Poitiers* have imposed the summe of 1200 liuers vpon those of the Religion, for the entertainment of a guard which they vied in these troubles, and whereinto they would not admit any of the aforesaid Religion, may it please your Maiesty to discharge them of it, as of an imposition that is not reasonable.

Answer.

The 16 Article shall be communicated to the Maior and Sheriffs of Poitiers, that vpon hearing of them order may be taken for it.

17

Further they beseech your Maiesty to ordaine, that the Edict of Exchange touching the Churches of your Soueraignty of *Bearne*, may in all points be effected, as it pleased you to accord, by the Briefe giuen at *Montpellier*. And that the Exercise of the Religion, and the Ministerie may bee restored in your Towne of *Nauarrins*. That in consideration of the Cession of other Churches, they of the Religion may be maintained in the possession of the Churches, bells and Church-yards, which was granted them by the Commissioners, or by the Parliament vpon their report. That the Colledges and Academies may be re-established there, with payment of the stipends which were formerly allowed.

Answer.

Answer.

The King will cause that to be carefully accomplished and observed, which was accorded to them of the pretended reformed Religion, by the Briefe of the 24 of October last.

18

And because Iustice is that which most imports your Authority, and the conseruation of the Peace; May it please your Maiesty to ordaine the speedy re-establishment of the Courts of Iustice equally compounded of Catholikes, and those of the reformed Religion, in places and Townes where they were wont to be. And that during the time of attending the effect of the said re-establishment, the Courts of Parliament may be interdicted from taking notice and iudging of causes appertaining to them of the Religion: And that all appeales, either verball or written, interiectd by them before Iudges, or Commissioners, that are to giue Arrests and iudgements, may haue the like effect, as if they were relieued by Royall Letters, according to the 45 Article of the Edict, and the 6 of the Conference at Nerac.

Answer.

His Maiesty intends that the Court of Iustice of the Edict of Languedoc, which only remaineth vn-re-established, shall be restored as soone as may be in the Towne of Castres, according to the said Declaration.

19

By the 6 Article of the Edict, and the 2 of the particulars, and other answers made to the Requests, they of the Religion finde themselves to be iustly discharged

charged from contributing to the constructions & reparations of the Church & the dependances thereof, as a thing contrary to their consciences. Notwithstanding which, the Catholike inhabitants of *Arnay le Duc* sue to your Councell for leaue, to impose generally on the Commonalty, as well vpon those of the Religion, as vpon themselves, the summe of 6000 liuers, to build a Church for the *Capuchins*, which would be neyther reasonable, nor conformable to your Edicts: Wherefore, may it please your Maiestie, to declare all your subiects of the Religion to be quit, and exempted from payments, and contributions of the like nature, and that the said second Article of the Particulars may be executed.

Answer.

It is granted.

20

It is well knowne, that during these last troubles, they of the said Religion haue suffered much violence from their contraries: As in the towne of *Romorantin*, where the place of their Exercise in the suburbs of the said towne was twice burnt. But that which is yet more strange is this, that since the Peace which it pleased your Maiestie to grant vnto your said Subiects, the Church which had been built long agoe in your towne of *Iergeau* was quite pulled downe, and the demolishments carried cleane away, by meanes whereof they of the Religion are deprived of their Exercise: Wherefore they most humbly beseech your Maiesty, that in reparation of so notable an infraction of your Edicts and Declarations, you wil be pleased to ordaine, that the said churches

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may be re-edified, and the Exercise re-established in the said townes of *Iergeau* and *Romarantin*.

Answer.

The said Commissioners deputed for those places, haue in charge, to take order for that which is contained in this Article.

Your townes of *Saint Foy* and *Bergerac*, most humbly beseech you, Sir, that you will be pleased out of your singular bountie to discharge them of the oppressions, which with so much excessse they haue suffered a long time, letting your said towne of *Bergerac* fully enjoy the benefit of your inuiolable promises, by hindring so many innouations, and the building of the Cittadell there, which is now erecting no withstanding that your Subiects of the Religion haue maintained themselves in the firmnes of a most humble subiection and obedience towards your Maiestie, therby labouring to deserue the effect of the said Roiall promises, their libertie, and the peaceable exercise of their Religion.

Answer.

His Maiesty will write vnto my Lord the Duke of Espenon, Governor and Lieutenant generall in Guienne, to take order that the Inhabitants of the said townes of Bergerac and Saint Foy may be releued, and fauorably entreated vpon all occasions that shall present themselves: and to see that the men of warre in the said places, may liue in such order, as they may receiue no kinde of oppression from them.

And lastly, for the easing of your people of the Religion,

Religion, for the settling of them in a sure confidence and further confirmation of the Peace, which you haue vouchsafed to grant them: may it please your Maiesty to raze out all the markes of diffidence that are yet remaining, and for that one to discharge the many Garisons that still continue in the lower *Languedoc*, and other Prouinces, vnder the command of such as are not very well affected to your said subiects of the religion: that so there may be no retardment of the effects of that obedience, which both they will and ought to render you, as well in the demolishments you haue ordained, as in all other things which it shall please you to command them.

Signed Montmartin Deputy Generall.

Maniald Deputy Generall.

Answer.

The King will take order herein, as he shall see it to be best for his seruice.

Signed

LOVYS.

And a little lower,

Philippeaux.

FINIS.